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Computing integral asymptotics using toric blow-ups of ideals.

Integrals of the form $Z(N) = \int_{\Omega} e^{-Nf(\omega)} \varphi(\omega) d\omega$ occur frequently in applications such as machine learning and computational biology. We are often interested in the asymptotics $Z(N) \approx CN^{-\lambda}(\log N)^{\theta-1}$ as N grows large. If f has a unique minimum point where the Hessian is positive definite, the asymptotic coefficients C , λ and θ are given by the classical Laplace approximation. In this talk, we study the case $f = g \circ h$ where $g : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies the above Laplace condition at the origin and $h : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ is a polynomial map. Using Newton polyhedra and toric resolutions, we introduce a notion of nondegeneracy for ideals and derive formulas for the asymptotic coefficients when the ideal $\langle h_1(\omega), \dots, h_k(\omega) \rangle$ is nondegenerate. (Received August 30, 2011)